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EAST BAY LABOR JOURNAL

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CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL OF ALAMEDA COUNTY AND BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL OF ALAMEDA COUNTY

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FEDERATION OPPOSES BILLS SEEKING TO EMASCULATE CALIFORNIA'S WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LAWS

Attention has already been directed to the insidious attacks upon California's Workmen's compensation laws contained in Assembly Bill 1924, known as the Philadelphia Lawyers' Bill.

A further analysis of bills pending in the Legislature discloses the startling fact that numerous other attacks upon the Workmen's Compensation laws are sponsored by the three members of the Assembly Interim Committee appointed to investigate practice and procedure in the administration of the law. The gentlemen in question are Albert M. King of Oroville, Frank J. Waters of Los Angeles, and Clyde A. Watson of Orange county.

As already intimated, these three legislators—two lawyers and one orange grower—are evidently laboring under the illusion that the Workmen's Compensation laws were enacted for the benefit of insurance companies and their lawyers. To this end, they propose to make it as difficult as possible for injured workers to collect compensation.

This, of course, is entirely contrary to the mandate of the people of California, as expressed in the constitutional amendment setting up the workmen's compensation program in this state. This mandate provided that workmen's compensation cases should be tried "expeditiously, inexpensively, and without incumberance of any character." It is clear that the three beforementioned gentlemen have entirely forgotten this command of the people and are now attempting to make workmens' compensation proceedings so cumbersome and complicated that workmen will be utterly unable to obtain speedy justice before the Industrial Accident Commission. Bills have been introduced to eliminate benefits of liberal decisions by the courts and to otherwise whittle away the gains for which labor has fought long and hard.

In a recent decision, the State Supreme Court held that a widow or other dependent could file a claim for death benefit within one year of death of the victim or within two years of the date of the injury, whichever gave the dependents the longer period of time in which to file the claim. At least five bills have been introduced to do away with the benefits upheld by this decision. These bills are: A.B. 1720, introduced by Waters; A.B. 1831, King, Waters and Watson; A.B. 1866, 1869, King; and A.B. 1977, Waters.

Another series of bills, if adopted, would result in hopeless confusion and chaos in the administration of the workmen's compensation laws. These bills duplicate, without reason, many provisions relating to procedure before the Industrial Accident Commission which are already in the law, and, in addition, make changes which are unimportant and unnecessary. Furthermore, the proposed bills make no attempt to repeal existing sections of the Labor Code, consequently, if enacted it would be impossible for anyone to determine what the law is. Such bills are: A.B. 1934, King and Waters; A.B. 1935, King, Watson and Waters; A.B. 1936, King, Watson and Waters; A.B. 1938, King, Watson and Waters.

Still another series of bills seemingly change only a word or two of certain sections of the Labor Code, such as the word "such" to "the," or re-enact a present section without change. On their face these bills seem to accomplish nothing in particular and they might be thought harmless. They are potentially very dangerous, however, since they evidently have been introduced as "skeleton" bills, which later can be drastically amended. Such bills are: A.B. 1832, A.B. 1833, A.B. 1834, and A.B. 1835, all introduced by King, Watson and Waters.

Two bills, A.B. 1864 and A.B. 1867, introduced by King, would require the Industrial Accident Commission to "evaluate" evidence in terms of "weight and credibility." At the present time, the Industrial Accident Commission, like other courts and commissions, may accept the testimony of a lesser number of witnesses against a larger number or may accept a lesser number of medical reports against a larger number of medical reports, if it believes that the truth rests with the lesser number. This is the universal rule. While the language contained in the proposed bills does not express it in so many words, such language would soon be interpreted to mean that the Industrial Accident Commission would be compelled to accept the testimony of five doctors or five other witnesses of the insurance carrier as against one doctor or one other witness of the injured worker regardless of where the truth might lie.

Another bill, A.B. 1941, introduced by King, strikes a direct blow at labor in attempting to deprive it of a valuable service now rendered by the legal bureau of the Industrial Accident Commission. This bill provides that the legal work of the Commission shall be done by the Attorney General or by district attorneys. At the present time, when cases are appealed to the courts, the Commission's attorneys represent the commission in such proceedings. If the decision has been in favor of the employe the attorneys, by representing the Commission, indirectly represent the employe, and the employe has thus been saved the expense of hiring an attorney. The valuable service and good work of the attorneys for the Commission in this respect is well known. The proposed bill would allow the Attorney General to require the "real parties in interest" to have their own attorneys handle the cases on appeal. In other words, the insurance companies would always be well represented by their attorneys, but the injured employe or his widow would be put to the expense of hiring an attorney or have no attorney at all. This bill, therefore, is a bold and bald attempt to place the victims of industrial accidents still further at the mercy of insurance companies.

In 1943, these insurance companies collected in California approximately seventy-four million dollars in premiums for workmen's compensation insurance. Approximately forty per cent of this tidy sum is retained by these companies for "overhead" expense. Apparently that is not enough in the opinion of legislators who sponsor the bills analyzed herein!

BAKERS' ASSESSMENT IS NOW PAYABLE

Death assessment No. 9 is now due and payable for the death of George Waxweiler, a member of Bakers' Union, Local No. 119.

Members will include this assessment with the current month's dues.

FRED WOLPERT,
President.

C. H. BULLOCK,
Secretary-Treasurer.

HANDICAPPED AND CRIPPLED CHILDREN'S SEALS NOW IN MAIL

Unionists Are Urged To Purchase Easter Seals; Can Be Obtained at Guild Headquarters

Organized seven years ago, the Handicapped and Crippled Children's Guild of Alameda County has increased not only in membership but in the scope of its work, according to Mrs. Harold P. Henningsen, of Oakland, president.

Financed largely by the sale of Easter Seals which were received in the mails this week, the organization is affiliated with the National and California Societies for Crippled Children. It has the support and interest of 26 men's and women's clubs and civic groups throughout the county. Other income is derived from membership dues, memorials and benefits.



"The guild," according to Mrs. Marshall Robinson, executive secretary, does not duplicate the work of any other organization. "It supplements the work of other groups and takes cases that cannot be cared for in any other way."

Headquarters are maintained at 1629 Telegraph avenue, Oakland.

In the past six months 45 new cases have been referred to the Guild, including three eye operations. Twenty-one children have received hospital or clinic care through the Guild and four of its physiotherapy cases received a total of 350 treatments.

One case was that of a 14-year-old negro lad who lost his right hand in a molasses mill in the south. He is being fitted with an artificial hand. Another case was the four and a half year-old boy who lost his left leg when tuberculosis of the bone set in. He is to receive an artificial limb. These and many other cases are helped through the sale of Easter Seals. Those who did not receive seals may obtain them at Guild headquarters.

OFFICE WORKERS' ELECTION TALLY NOT COMPLETE

Results of Union's Election Must Await Decision of Local Election Board

Chairman of Office Workers, Local No. 20744 election committee R. H. Judish, released the following statement on March 5th relative to the election of officers held February 28, 1945:

As of this date no official results of the election have been released. The tabulation is incomplete because of disputed ballots.

Any information regarding the election results which may have been given publicly from other sources does not reflect an official release, and should be treated accordingly.

BLUE AND GOLD CAB COMPANY OF BERKELEY NOW OPERATES UNION

The Blue and Gold Cab Company of Berkeley that has been on the official "We Don't Patronize" list of the labor movement in Alameda county has been purchased by Mr. Milton Ross of the California Cab Company.

Mr. Ross who has always operated under a contract with Chauffeurs' Union, Local No. 923 of Alameda county will conduct the business of the Berkeley Blue and Gold cabs under union conditions in the future.

All A. F. of L. members are urged to give their full cooperation to the new management of this firm and help make this business a successful venture under union conditions.

26-Day Plan Receives Endorsement Of Technical Engineers, 39

By PAUL M. GATZE, Chairman, Legislative and Post-War Planning Committee, Technical Engineers' Local No. 39.

The future welfare of all people will be determined by present day action — or inaction. The adoption of the 26-day annual vacation proposal will help toward a greater realization of life, liberty and happiness. It offers an opportunity for leaders to take constructive steps toward the solution of Post-War problems. It should be incorporated in the plans of all those interested in promoting the general welfare, providing for the common defense, and securing the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity.

Fundamentally, the "26-Day" plan would give to all government employes an annual vacation of 26 working days immediately upon the cessation of hostilities.

Those engaged in the business of transportation, recreation (not wreck-reation) and all kinds of cultural pursuits should favor this plan and help to broaden its scope so as to eventually include workers in all fields of endeavor. Adequate vacations with opportunities for travel, study and all manner of educational pursuits will do more than any other thing to make another world war impossible.

VFW Auxiliary Post To Meet Tonight; Celebrate Birthday

Regular meeting of Union Labor Auxiliary No. 1917, V.F.W., will be held Friday evening (tonight) March 9, 1945, at 8:00 p. m., at Veterans' Memorial Building, Oakland.

Nomination and election of officers.

The Auxiliary will celebrate its eighth birthday.

All members are requested to attend. Myrtle Pierce is chairman. Mary Robinson will preside.

Final Word On Wage Freeze Now Up To FDR, AFL Insists

Board's Delay and Deception Bared

The unjust and deceptive nature of the report of the public members of the National War Labor Board in which they decided, despite the obvious facts, that wages have kept pace with the cost of living, was exposed in the dissenting opinion filed by the AFL members.

The following excerpts from the AFL opinion show the delays and the statistical jugglery resorted to by the NWLB public members to justify their conclusions:

"At long last the public members have commented formally upon the request of the American Federation of Labor that the National War Labor Board seek authority to modify realistically the Little Steel formula. One whole year has elapsed since the American Federation of Labor presented its petition. For one whole year the American workers have awaited action of the public members of the board."

"Historically, the National War Labor Board has attained its high degree of success by controlling wage rates. To be sure, the board could have used "take-home pay" as the measure of wage control. As honest, competent students of wages, however, the public members perceived the essential inequity of regulating wages guided by the behavior of gross earnings or "take-home pay." They joined with the labor members in renouncing this criterion of wage stabilization. Even as recently as March of 1943, when the American Federation of Labor protested the Little Steel formula, the public members took cognizance of the difference between stabilized wage rates and the cost of living.

"In this statement, however, the public members have adopted a new basis of wage stabilization. They have now decided that 'adjusted straight time hourly earnings' is a more proper measuring rod. This decision represents a compromise between their historical measure—wage rates—and the demands of the employers that 'take-home pay' or gross earnings should be used. Despite the statistical adjustments made, the new measure is essentially a kind of 'take-home pay figure.'

"One basis of the decision to change the measuring rod of wage regulation must certainly have been expediency. Adherence to the historical pattern of wage regulation by control of wage rates would have forced the public members to recommend a substantial increase in the Little Steel formula. The labor members have accepted the burden of wage control by regulation of wage rates. They adhere still to that position. The modification in the position of the public members can fairly be interpreted to mean that to continue their successful achievement of wage stabilization they are willing to protect it in this manner.

"There is a fundamental defect in the adjusted earnings measure to which the labor members object. Specifically, this average earnings figure represents adjustments in wages to particular individuals, since general wage increases under the Little Steel formula have long been exhausted. However, these average increases to some workers have been charged against all workers. For example, when ten men in a plant received an increase of 10 cents per hour, the averaging process is used to show that the wage adjustment is equivalent to 20 men receiving a 5 cents per hour increase. The adjusted average hourly figure is depicted as being 5 cents per hour increase. In this manner, the public members have concocted a 36.7 per cent increase in adjusted straight time hourly earnings for all wage earners subject to the War Labor Board's jurisdiction.

"In summary, the workers of America are disillusioned by this change in wage control technique. But they have not been hypnotized into believing that an increase for some workers is an increase in the wages of all workers. Only statisticians can be confused by the magic of their averaging technique."



POSTAL EMPLOYES DESERVING OF A WAGE RAISE

Once more the proposals by Representative Geo. D. O'Brien of Michigan and Senator James M. Mead of New York to provide permanent pay increases of $400 per year for city and village delivery carriers have been submitted to Congress, and it is recommended that labor do everything possible to have its Congressmen support these proposals.

William C. Doherty, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, pointed out:

"The postal workers of America are probably more deserving of and more in need of a boost in pay than almost any other wage-earners in the country. They work hard and loyally. Their tasks are important. But their pay is so far from adequate that these fine Americans cannot maintain anything like an American standard of living for themselves and their children.

"If ever organized labor had an opportunity to register protest in behalf of an inexcusably underpaid group, that time is now. If ever organized labor had the chance to aid a deserving segment of organized workers, that time is now."

It must be kept in mind that there are rumors that the members of Congress will soon give serious thought to increasing their own salaries. It is agreed that they have been subject to outmoded and antiquated salary structures. In such a case, it is not possible to conceive of serious opposition to raising the salaries of the letter carriers, as Mr. Doherty states:

"The N.A.L.C. has no objection to a sound program for upward revision of Congressional salaries... It does object, however, to being ignored in the consideration of keeping salaries abreast of living costs."

AMERICAN RED CROSS APPEALS FOR FUNDS TO CONTINUE WORLDWIDE SERVICE PROGRAM

The American Red Cross is appealing to the American people during the month of March for funds to continue its worldwide service program. A campaign to collect $200,000,000 has been set for the 1945 Red Cross War Fund.

All international unions are cooperating with the Red Cross, as well as the labor press generally. The Federation endorses this drive which merits the unstinted support of labor.

NWLB FINDING IN FAVOR OF KEEPING WAGE FORMULA ASSAILED BY AFL

Sharply rejecting the findings of the public members of the National War Labor Board against any change in the wage freeze, the AFL members of the board called upon President Roosevelt to prevent "economic disaster" by promptly and realistically modifying the Little Steel formula.

Since the President incorporated the Little Steel formula into an executive order and thus made it part of the nation's stabilization program, the AFL group contended that it is up to the President to make the final decision on whether the formula should now be changed.

Arguments of the public members against modification of the formula were blasted to smithereens in the AFL dissent.

The statement charged that the public members, after a year's delay, have resorted to the tricky expedient of changing the "measuring rod" of wages in order to justify their position.

From the beginning, the AFL group pointed out, the NWLB has limited its sphere of regulation to "wage rates" and has not used gross earnings or "take-home pay" as its guide. In their latest report, however, the public members seized upon a new measuring rod, "adjusted straight-time hourly earnings." This amounts to a statistical about-face since the "adjustments" that are included make the new measure a kind of "take-home pay figure."

Exposing the injustice of this method, the AFL asserted that if 10 men in a plant received a 10 cents an hour increase, an averaging process is used to show that 20 men received a 5 cents hourly increase.

"In this manner," the AFL statement declared, "the public members have concocted a 36.7 per cent increase in adjusted straight time hourly earnings for all wage earners subject to the War Labor Board's jurisdiction.

"The workers of America are disillusioned by this change in wage control technique. But they have not been hypnotized into believing that an increase for some workers is an increase in wages of all workers. Only statisticians can be confused by the magic of their averaging technique."

Turning to the post-war significance of frozen wage rates, the AFL charged the public members of the WLB with seeking greater government control over collective bargaining, which would be "not only objectionable but an indication of a danger trend of thinking."

"Submission to government regulation of wages and interference with the rights of American workers during a war fought to defend freedom has been necessary. But even a suggestion that free collective bargaining shall be supplanted in large measure by government regulation during the undefined reconversion period is a timely warning that the organized workers of America can ill afford to overlook.

"The eventual outcome of this kind of thinking is government-dominated and controlled unionism. We cannot subscribe to this 'solution' of the problem, which will be inescapable if the rigid control of wages represented by the Little Steel formula is to be continued."

The dissenting report was signed by AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, Vice President Matthew Woll, Robert J. Watt and James A. Brownlow.

They emphasized at the outset that the record of the President's original 7-point anti-inflation program is a "sorry one" on every point save wage regulation, adding:

"The contract between the results attained by the War Labor Board and those produced by the other agencies involved in the program is startling. Indeed, the control of wages has been so effective that the deficiencies of the entire program have been hidden from public view.

"Nevertheless, by some strange quirk of reasoning, whenever the program is lagging more than usual, the pressure is placed upon the one area of control that has succeeded. As a consequence, the thumbscrews have been steadily tightened upon workers until now they have been asked to forego even certain benefits which are conducive to healthful living.

"The analysis of wage control presented in the statement of the public members represents a desperate effort to save the entire program of fighting inflation at a cost to be borne only by the wage earners and for the enrichment of other groups in the economy."

Red Cross War Fund Campaign Workers To Meet Today, Friday

Scottish Rite Auditorium Chosen For Luncheon Where Volunteer Workers Will Report On Progress To Date

On the ninth day of the Red Cross War Fund campaign, with a record high goal of $968,184, volunteer workers are meeting today (Friday, March 9th), at a second report luncheon held at the Scottish Rite Building, 1547 Oak street, to report on the progress of the drive to date.

Announcing that the "speed-up" campaign is so far moving along satisfactorily and according to schedule, Elwood J. Schmitt, general campaign chairman, pointed out that, "a continued generous and ready response, such as has marked the opening nine days of the campaign, might well place the Oakland area in line for first 'over-the-top' honors among the major cities."

"It is gratifying," he said, "to note the homefront good will and the wholehearted appreciation of the great humanitarian job the Red Cross is doing here and overseas, and of the enormous task that faces it this coming year as the lists of war wounded, released prisoners, and hospital cases mount."

According to reports submitted by committee chairmen serving on the Red Cross War Fund drive, subscriptions from residents and from workers in business and industry in general show a 29 per cent and more increase over last year.

The 1945 "all-high" goal calls for a 29 per cent increase over 1944 to meet the growing demands for Red Cross services as the tempo of the fighting increases in the Pacific battle zones.

Included in the luncheon reports on campaign returns were those of committee chairmen Ralph W. York, business division; Mrs. Rilea W. Doe, residential special gifts; Russell Horstmann, public employes; Will Evans, manufacturing, and Mrs. Albert Rowe, house-to-house volunteers.

Returns were submitted from all sections of the Oakland area participating in the drive which encompasses all of Alameda county with the exception of Berkeley, Albany and Alameda. These were tabulated for the report luncheon by auditors volunteering their time.

Some parts of the Oakland area are as yet uncanvassed, but business offices, industrial plants and householders can expect a Red Cross solicitor to call at almost any hour in the next few days.

Individuals are urged to determine the amount they will contribute, and to have their gift set aside and waiting for the Red Cross representative, thus helping to "speed a record-breaking drive to a record finish."

In summing up the report findings, and referring to the creditable response, Schmitt said, "It is understandable. One of these days a returning overseas son, or husband, or friend will say, 'The Red Cross is sure doing a swell job over there. I don't know what we would do without them. Did you give this year?' What one of us would want to face him and reply, 'No'."

The third report luncheon will be held on Tuesday, March 13th, at the Scottish Rite Building, 1547 Oak street.

LABOR'S CHOICE IN COUNCILMEN FOR ALAMEDA CITY ELECTION NEXT TUESDAY, MARCH 13TH

The three candidates for the Alameda City Council that have received the endorsement of the local labor movement are Frank F. Burke, Leo W. King and Albert G. Burns. These three comprise the Non-Partisan ticket and are believed to be the three best qualified to serve the interest of the entire community in the city of Alameda. Each has lived in Alameda for many years and they are familiar with the needs of the community. They have declared themselves in favor of a number of progressive measures that would improve the health, educational and financial developments of the city of Alameda.

Members of organized labor who are registered voters in the city of Alameda are earnestly urged to support these three candidates to their fullest extent. Be sure to vote next Tuesday, March 13th, and ask your friends and neighbors to do the same.

Supreme Court Upholds Ban Against Homework

The Supreme Court ruled by a 7 to 2 vote that the wage-hour administrator has authority to include a ban on home work in a minimum wage order for the embroidery industry.

Gemsco, Inc., and several home workers in the industry appealed to the high tribunal from a decision by the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals in New York City.

The Justice Department told the Supreme Court that a 40-cent minimum wage order without a prohibition of home work "would be a nullity because it could not be enforced."

The Red Cross drive for funds is now under way. If you have not already made your donation, do so as soon as possible.

Special Notice For Members of Cooks' Union, Local 228

Regular meeting of Wednesday, March 14th, at 8:00 p. m., a special order of business will be held for the first nomination of officers for the coming term. Second nomination will be held on Wednesday, March 28 at 3 p. m.

Hub Badger, secretary-treasurer, urges all members to attend these important meetings.

UNIONISTS REQUESTED TO BE PRESENT AT MONDAY'S MEETING

On March 12th, the Alameda County Building and Construction Trades Council, in conjunction with all of organized labor, is calling a special meeting to be held in Hall No. 1, Labor Temple, 2111 Webster street, Oakland, California.

This meeting is highly important as legislation vitally affecting your interest during 1945 will be discussed and analyzed at this meeting. In addition to that, there is the American Federation of Labor's public relations program to be explained to your committee, also endorsements for local candidates for public office.

This meeting is very important and we urge that you have at least five delegates or executive members present at this meeting.

Meeting place: 2111 Webster street, Hall No. 1.

Time: 8:00 p. m.

Date: March 12, 1945.

Joe Henderson Receives Promotion

Joseph Y. Henderson, organizer and auditor for the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America, who has been working in the Oakland Butchers' Local No. 120 for the past couple of years and who is well known around the labor temple, has been promoted to the position of 9th vice president of the Butchers' International.

Henderson will take over his new duties which cover the district comprising the states of Oregon, Washington and the northern part of Idaho in the near future.

He has been active as organizer and auditor for the butchers since 1931. His many friends around the labor temple congratulate him on his promotion and wish him luck and success in his new position.

Don't delay to make your donation to the Red Cross. The drive for funds is now in full swing.

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LADIES' AUXILIARY NEWS

How the Women Are Helping Through Their Organizations

MACHINISTS' AUXILIARY No. 97

It was a nine-pound baby boy which the stork settled on for Gene Glass Sunday (February 25th). All involved in the event (including the father) are doing fine.

The social committee for our last meeting in March is Anna Hoover, chairman; Evelyn Gerholdt, Anna Pettit, Anne Reed and Cora Stephenson.

Charlotte Brown is ill. We hope it is nothing serious, Charlotte.

Cora Stephenson is in Seattle visiting her grandson, Donald Stephenson, who is in a naval hospital there.

Second Lieutenant William J. Gennoy, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Gennoy, was awarded the air medal for attacks against the German armored forces, transportation and troops. He is a pilot at a Ninth Air Force fighter-bomber base, France.

And don't forget, girls, sewing for the A.W.V.S. at Wilma Binger's on March 15th.

Phone your news items to GLencourt 4929.

MILDRED STEPHENSON,
Press Correspondent.

LABOR TEMPLE AUXILIARY

Last Tuesday evening our regular meeting and social for the month of March was held, with a very good attendance. It was a pleasure to see so many of the old members back again and we sincerely hope that they will continue to come to the meetings.

We were more than happy to welcome into our Auxiliary six new members: Adeline Dondero, mother of our Pearl, who is a member of Office Workers' Union, No. 20744; Oral Glenn, wife of member of Electrical Workers' Union No. B-1245, also sister-in-law of Mayme Miller; Emma Meade, wife of a member of Painters, No. 127; Wilma Pomares, wife of member of Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, No. 890, also daughter of Esther Emery; Ruth Robbins, wife of member of Street Carmen, No. 192; and Grace Scott, wife of member of Civil Engineers, also another of the Scott tribe.

Following the business meeting, our president, Rosemary Padfield, sang two Irish songs; they were followed by the hat parade, with many interesting and funny hats on display. There must have been about twenty-five or thirty members participating in the hat show. First and second awards being given to your writer and Pearl Dondero. The members then played the dice game of "Cooty" with Mayme Miller taking top honors. Refreshments were served ending a very pleasant evening.

RED CROSS

Last Tuesday evening the work of the women sewing for the Red Cross on Wednesdays was on display and the ladies deserve a lot of credit for the beautiful work they have done.

SICK AND CONVALESCENT

I understand that Elma Stone has been quite ill for the past couple of weeks. Sorry to hear this, Elma, and hope that you are feeling better at this time.

Many of our members are suffering from bad colds and we wish them all a speedy recovery.

Louisa Durrer is doing very nicely and it will not be long before she will be back to work.

NOTES

There will be two birthdays celebrated next week and both on St. Patrick's day, March 17th—Anna Higgins and Ethel Streeter are the two members to wish a "Happy Birthday" to. Best wishes and many happy returns of the day, Anna and Ethel.

Anniversaries to be celebrated soon are: Victoria Braves, March 12th, and Bernice Barden, the 19th. Congratulations and best wishes, Victoria and Bernice.

Our annual "Spring" whist will be held April 21st on a Saturday night. Members are requested to donate non-rationed groceries for the grocery basket.

We have one more star to be added to our service flag: Clifford, son of our new member, Ruth Robbins. Clifford is in the U. S. Marine Corp and at present in the Central Pacific area.

Due to lack of time, I will have to continue this week's news in my next write-up.

DOROTHY THRALL,
Recording Secretary.

CARPENTERS' AUXILIARY No. 160

Hi, girls, you know I have to make this brief in order to get a few words out for you. No sewing last Friday. Our Busy Bees were nearly all sick. Annie fell and injured her side, Dianne had a bum foot, Theresa, in bed with a severe cold, Levah is still in the incubator. Esther had almost lost her voice, and guess . . . Flo . . . with mumps. Let's hope that all these invalids are recuperating by now. Ed. Thompson is home now, but oh! dear, his back is giving him quite a bit of pain. Brother Bert Shumake had an appendectomy operation and is now in Providence hospital. Mr. Rogers is also in Alameda hospital for a touch of surgery. Mr. H. Newman is resting in Merritt. He too had a taste of the blade. The Auxiliary is wishing every one a speedy return.

You all know that the State Auxiliary held their meeting in Fresno. Ruth Thompson, their secretary, attended.

The ladies served a nice pot-luck supper. No need telling you how good it tasted. It was a lovely reunion. The hotel space was very limited—five of us made our nest in one room. Dimples McCoy, the plutocrat of the bunch, rented a cot, but her beauty rest was quite disturbed. Lela Brown of San Diego who rises with the chickens, started her cackling in the early morn, then she was soon joined by Ruth, and Ruby Van Camp, believe me, next time I leave on furlough with Ruth I'll sleep next to the wall so she won't step over me with those big paws of hers.

The wisest was President Marie Brayton. She had a room for her family, hubby came along, and a lady friend. So she didn't have to listen to the barnyard opera. Zelma Putma of Gilmore left for home the same evening. Mrs. Cobleigh donated a lot of her time in making arrangements. Everyone was happy and cooperated beautifully. After the dinner a spelling contest took place. Our thoroughbred, Ruth Thompson, brought home the blue ribbon.

Sunday it was the finals and an au revoir was extended until next year.

Now ladies, the social is Friday, the 9th; pot-luck is the menu. The 14th executive board will meet at the home of Annie Elvin, 3334 California street, Berkeley, telephone OLympic 5412. Business meeting Friday, the 23rd; try and attend. The 16th, bingo at Nathalie Stenling, 1634 - 84th avenue, Oakland. Keep the date open. Bring friends if possible.

Do not forget the members of Local 36 now in hospitals. A card or a visit will cheer them, I am sure.

Brother Bert, we will be praying for you. You have helped organize this auxiliary and best wishes are extended to you. And all of you gals of No. 160, please don't get all crippled at the same time. Such tragedies we are opposed to.

My son, Rene Lodin, has just returned from overseas after 33 months. Here is one happy mother and family.

Buy war bonds, please give blood, won't you.

BEATRICE CHRISTENSEN,
Press Correspondent.

PRINTERS' AUXILIARY No. 26

The regular monthly business meeting of W. A. No. 26 was held on March 1st at the home of Mrs. L. M. Bean on 64th avenue. The principal business was nomination of international and local officers.

Mrs. F. M. Chilson, president of No. 26, was nominated for international president. Mrs. Merritt (incumbent president); Mrs. Shaw and Mrs. Chambers were nominated for international vice-presidents. Mrs. Margaret Littlejohn (incumbent) for international secretary-treasurer.

Local officers: Mrs. F. M. Chilson, president; Mrs. A. G. Harris, vice-president; Mrs. C. Roy Heinrichs, secretary; Mrs. M. R. Feeney, chaplain; Mrs. Harry Lawson, guide; Mrs. H. A. Peterson, press correspondent, and Mrs. Geo. Hickox, treasurer.

Executive committee: Mrs. L. M. Bean, Mrs. Howard Stapleton, Mrs. Geo. Stiffler, Mrs. Chas. Weeks.

March 16th, Charter Day, will be held at Mrs. Stiffler's home at 2620 Bartlett street. This will be an open social and Mrs. Stiffler will be assisted in entertaining by Mrs. Feeney, Mrs. Bean, Mrs. Weeks and Mrs. Peterson. It will be our 36th birthday so do try and come. Also the officers for the year will be duly elected.

The April business meeting will be on April 5th, at the home of Mrs. F. M. Chilson, at 11 a. m. Luncheon and cards will follow the meeting. Mrs. Chilson will be assisted by Mrs. Lawson and Mrs. Harris.

At the business meeting of March 1st, ten dollars was donated to the Red Cross. We are also going to have a service flag on which will be placed silver and gold stars for those of our members who have anyone in the service of our government.

A correction: In a recent issue, it was stated that Mrs. Weeks was ill; it was Mr. Weeks who was not so well as the time but he is improving.

Always look for the union label.

MABEL A. PATTERSON,
Press Correspondent.

Secretary Perkins Attacks "Equal Rights" Measure

During a press conference, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins delivered a strong attack upon the "equal rights" amendment to the constitution now pending in Congress. She said:

"I see no sense in ripping up the constitution to pass a theoretical measure which, while its words sound plausible, will have an effect we can hardly calculate on all laws now on the books designed to protect women workers from exploitation."

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PLUMBERS AND GAS FITTERS' NOTES

BY S. J. DONOHUE: An old adage states that beggars can't be choosers. The Federal Deposit Corporation has denounced the increasing number of proposals for government financing of business after the war. Its annual report states that "if the private enterprise system is to survive, the financing of industry for peacetime pursuits should not be undertaken as a governmental function except in periods of emergency." Criticism was aimed not only at direct government loans, but also government guaranteeing loans made by private banks.

Business' staunchest supporters cannot do other than condemn industries that look to government for extensive financial aid in peacetime. Admittedly permanent government restrictions have made it harder for enterprising individuals to create new undertakings and expand old ones, but continuing the wartime practice of going to government for money will mean the certain destruction of independence. There is no excuse for business men who pursue such a policy, while at the same time pretending to carry the banner of private enterprise. It is useless and hypocritical to damn the bureaucrats and then go to them with hat in hand begging money.

Business must fight for the maintenance of economic independence not only by presenting its case to the public, but by scrupulously adhering to policies in daily operation that coincide with the ideals it asks the public to support. In fact, the public has a right to demand this from business because in the final count it is the public whose political freedom depends upon opportunities and jobs in free industry, which stand to lose most if American Industry should ever fall under the control of government.



Reading through the notes of another local union appearing in last week's issue of the Labor Journal, I noticed the secretary is calling the attention of the members that their by-laws specifically state that any member that goes in arrears beyond the 90 days will forfeit claims to any benefits and is subject to a $35.00 reinstatement fee, reminding the members of that local union to keep their dues paid up. The United Association constitution insofar as the 90 days is concerned is exactly the same and the reason I mention it now is that it provides an opportunity to call to the attention of our readers that we are in the third month of this year and some of our members have not paid their dues for the month of January as yet. A splendid habit to form is paying dues by the quarter and in that way the possibility of becoming delinquent is minimized.

Two Billions In Taxes Collected From Liquor

For the first time in history, federal taxes from liquor passed the two billion mark in 1944, an increase of $600,000,000 over the preceding year.

In announcing the figures, the Department of Commerce said the increase resulted from higher taxes rather than from heavier drinking.

Baseball

By ART MACY

Sunday proved another bad day for baseball as most of the grounds were in poor condition due to the heavy rain Saturday. However, two local games were played.

In the Alameda "A" league, Buckhorn Club defeated Maritime Officers' School 11-5, and San Leandro's Sick's Beer beat Dundee Clothiers 13-1.

Amaral and Rose worked on the hill for Sick's Beer and Phillips caught. Jim Atanzio took over the right field duties and turned in a fine exhibition of hitting, smacking three, including a home-run with the bags loaded.

Buckhorn Club, with Earl Voorheis and Ed Van Lieden on the mound, tripped Maritime Service 11-5. Maritime School won the first round of the Alameda "A" circuit and in the second half; Buckhorn Club have lost two, won three and tied one.

Ben's Golden Glow took a shellacking at the hands of Sherry Liquors at Vallejo, 9-5. This was the start of a three-game series that will be resumed in about three weeks. Manager Espina and his Glows will take a long needed rest before starting the summer schedule. Bates, for Sherrys, rapped four safe ones and for Bens, Lombardi polled a pair of doubles, with Mandish and Pacheco also hitting two-baggers.

Trophies will be presented at East Oakland Eagles' hall Tuesday night to the recent winter league champions of the Eagles' league, according to George R. Carlisle, president.

DRIVE OPENS TO KILL JAIL PENALTIES AS SENATE ARGUES MANPOWER BILL

As the Senate opened debate on the compromise O'Mahoney-Kilgore Manpower Bill, AFL President William Green sent a letter to all Senators demanding the defeat of the Austin amendment providing fines and jail sentences for violators.

"This amendment," Mr. Green declared, "is unnecessary and highly objectionable. The penalties are unreasonable and indefensible.

"Enforcement of the bill can be brought about without the Austin amendment, through labor ceilings placed upon the employer and control of hiring.

"If legislation must be passed, the committee bill with the Austin amendment eliminated from it would not be so drastic nor so bitterly unpalatable."

Immediately two Senators—Kilgore of West Virginia and Bushfield of South Dakota—moved to strike out the Austin amendment. While final decision may be delayed several days,, it is believed likely that it will be defeated.

Senator Albert B. Chandler of Kentucky, a member of the Military Affairs Committee, severely criticized military pressure for passage of a civilian mobilization bill.

"The military," Chandler shouted, "apparently set out to take advantage of the German break-through to horsewhip the country into a labor draft to make people realize there's a war on."

Senator O'Mahoney backed Chandler by remarking that he had correctly said that the United States has outproduced every other country in the world. "And we've done it all under the voluntary system," he said.

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PHILADELPHIA LABOR TO FORM LEGION POST

An American Legion post of union members will be formed at Philadelphia.

Plans for its formation were announced by James L. McDevitt, president of the State Federation of Labor and himself an overseas veteran of the last war.

"The aims of the Legion have always been identical with the aims of organized labor," McDevitt said. "We are establishing a labor post here because we think the position of organized labor should be represented in every phase of American life."

WHAT NEXT?

To meet adverse weather and transportation conditions overseas, machine gun cartridges now are being "canned" in hermetically sealed metal containers, it was announced at the Picatinny Arsenal, Dover, N. J. The "canned bullets," developed by the Army's Ordnance Department, are opened with a key similar to that used on coffee or sardine cans.

HAVE YOU DONATED AS YET?

The drive for funds for the Red Cross is now under way. Don't forget your donation, no matter how small, it all helps.

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WHEN YOU BUY FOOD

INJURED PERSONS FILL HOSPITAL BEDS

There are more persons in the nation's hospital beds today as the result of accidents than from wounds received in battle.

That startling statement comes from the National Safety Council which discloses that 84,000 injured persons are now receiving treatment. Throughout the year, it added the average number getting treatment will remain substantially the same.

RUSSIA AND FRANCE ARE BUYING RAIL EQUIPMENT

Restoration of wrecked rail facilities in France and Russia is furnishing considerable business for American concerns. On top of 700 engines for the French, orders for 690 Russian steam locomotives were placed with Baldwin, American and Lima Locomotive Works. More than 1,000 tank and hopper cars were also ordered for the Russians.

DEMAND THE UNION LABEL

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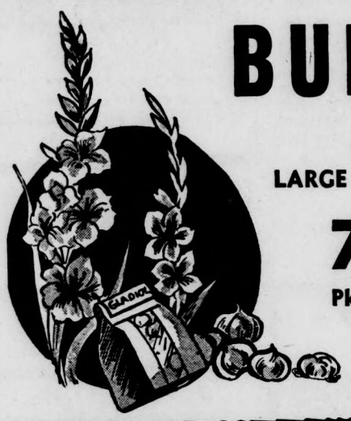
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Service to men of the Navy is just as important a function of the American Red Cross as aid and assistance to those men and women in other branches of the armed forces. This 1945 War Fund poster symbolizes service to the men who fight on the seas.

FRESNO LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE RALLIES AFL UNIONS BEHIND FEDERATION'S LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

More than 100 delegates, representing the various A. F. of L. Councils throughout the state of California, convened at the Hotel Californian on February 23rd to listen to and discuss the legislative program which the California State Federation of Labor has promulgated for the current session of the State Legislature. Interest in the subject matter that was discussed equalled the attendance, indicating the attention that is being given by labor to legislative matters.

Secretary Haggerty called the meeting to order and proceeded to report to the assembled delegation the progress that has been made. He explained that the Federation had analyzed more than 400 bills, copies of this analysis being furnished to each of the delegates. These 400-odd bills represent matters which the Federation considers most important to labor, and although it was acknowledged that some of them might have been left out, yet it was made clear that every effort would be made to include such bills, should the need arise. Because of the volume and nature of the bills that have been thrown into the legislative hopper, Secretary Haggerty pointed out that this session would be one of the most important of its kind that has faced labor. In taking up the various bills, he explained that the delegates were free to interrupt at any time to express their opinions.

The digest contains bills classified according to the following groupings: cosmetology, health insurance, labor unions and activities, other changes in labor code, post-war planning, flood control, State Department of Industrial Relations, state employes, taxes, unemployment insurance, veterans, women and minors, workmen's compensation, and miscellaneous bills.

Of the 3,385 bills that have been submitted, not nearly as many anti-labor bills were included as was the case at the last session of the Legislature. Each member of the Legislature will be allowed to submit two more bills when the session reconvenes on March 5th, and these will represent the final total of measures that the State Assembly and Senate will consider at this session.

In regard to unemployment insurance, the secretary said that the Federation has employed a trained specialist in this field who has sat on every hearing of the commission, and who has made a specialized study of the bills that will be considered by the State Legislature.

On those dealing with labor unions and activities, the secretary discussed S.B. 1240, introduced by Senator Tenney, which is the same as S.B. 1239. This would empower labor organizations to refuse membership to, or to expel persons who advocate "subversive" philosophies or belong to organizations whose object is the overthrow of the government of the United States by force or violence. The Federation is not supporting such a bill because the unions already have the power to refuse membership to such people, or to expel them from membership if they are guilty of such philosophies.

Various proposed changes in the Labor Code were discussed bill by bill as contained in the digest. The bill that came in for considerable discussion was A.B. 1391 which affects the reorganization of the Department of Industrial Relations. This bill would make fundamental changes in the setup of the Industrial Relations Department, as well as in the allocation of its jurisdiction. After considerable discussion, it was decided that the opinions of the various councils would be considered after they had studied the bill in greater detail, before the Federation makes a decision on how to amend it. It was generaly agreed that the bill could be amended to serve the best interest of labor.

On the question of state employes, it was reported that an effort would be made to get the Governor to issue a letter of urgency to make S.B. 513 applicable as quickly as possible. This provides for a flat increase in the wages of the state employes of $25 per month, in addition to $25 or $20 emergency increases under the 1943 budget act.

At the afternoon session, the bills dealing with taxes came in for consideration, as outlined by the Federation.

Under the heading of unemployment insurance, Secretary Haggerty pointed out that the Senate established an interim

More on Page 4

AFL War Hero Loses Three Limbs, But Says "I'm Lucky To Be Alive"

"I'm lucky to be alive."

That is the attitude expressed by Corp. Ralph A. Brown from a bed of pain at Walter Reed Hospital where he is convalescing after losing both legs and his right arm when Nazi shells blasted the tank in which he was riding last September in France.

Corp. Brown, who is a member of the AFL's International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local No. 377, also suffered a compound fracture of his remaining left arm and it is now only partially restored to use. His is the only triple amputation case reported in this war.

Despite his misfortunes, Brown is cheerful and philosophical about his injuries. He says:

"I'll get along."

His attitude is inspirational to other wounded soldiers at the hospital, and the War Department believes that when his fellow unionists get to know about it, they, too, will want to pitch in harder than ever before to help win the war in the shortest time possible.

The wounded veteran, whose mother, Mrs. Mary Brown, lives at 34 S. Broadway street, Youngstown, worked for the Isaly Dairy Co. in that city before joining the Army in March, 1942.

As gunner on a Sherman tank with the Sixth Armored Division, Brown was on a patrol through enemy-held territory when his vehicle came across two ammunition trucks hidden behind a French farmhouse. The patrol successfully blasted the trucks, but the Germans then scored a direct hit on the tank. Brown was pulled out, almost dead, by his buddies who drove him immediately to a battalion aid station. Prompt medical treatment saved his life.

The tank in which he was wounded was the second Sherman lost by his crew from their arrival in France on D-Day plus six until September. The first time Brown was back at base headquarters when his tank was smashed.

"If I'd been there then, I might have been killed," he commented. **"I'm lucky to be alive."**

HIGHER POST-WAR LIVING STANDARDS DEPEND ON JOBS FOR ALL SAYS RUML

Beardsley Ruml, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, predicted that there would be a 40 per cent rise in the standard of living in this country after the war and declared that to provide such a standard President Roosevelt's goal of 60,000,000 productive jobs could and must be attained.

Mr. Ruml said enduring national prosperity in the post-war world would depend on two things—a high level of employment and a higher capacity on the part of the Average American to enjoy the more abundant life that full-time employment would provide.

Speaking at a meeting of the New York Academy of Public Education at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, he asserted that the nation's educators had a vital part to play in building and maintaining post-war national prosperity. There cannot be a higher standard of living, he emphasized, unless educators teach Americans the great lesson of consumption.

"A higher standard of living and full employment go hand in hand—they are corollaries of each other," he said. "We cannot have 55 or 60 million jobs unless we have a higher standard of living that will consume the product of so many jobs. Similarly, if we have the increased consuming power, there will be a larger demand for goods and services and consequently more jobs to produce those very things that our people want."

Mr. Ruml said it was "reasonable" to expect that American private business would provide 54 to 56 million jobs after the war. He estimated that positions in government and military services would add enough jobs to that total to attain the national goal of 60,000,000.

G-I THEME SONG

Oh, I'm worried 'till I'm weary
O'er this problem grave and deep;
Shall I sleep and lose my breakfast
Or shall I rise and lose my sleep?

Secretary's Father Opens Bakery

Robert W. Ash, father of the secretary of the Central Labor Council of Alameda county, has taken over the bakery store at 5253 Foothill Boulevard, in the Fairfax district of East Oakland, formerly known as Leonard's Bakery. The store has been newly painted and renovated and Mr. Ash, the new proprietor, will offer the public the very best in fine bakery goods, providing special orders on birthday, wedding, anniversary and birthday cakes, also fancy pastry and cookies.

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Your Opportunity To Help

March—Red Cross month—offers each American Federation of Labor member an opportunity to help relieve human distress and aid in the rebuilding of the world. In supporting the American Red Cross, union members may justly take pride in the knowledge that they are helping to:

Save countless lives by providing blood plasma, forward U. S. prisoners of war food and personal necessities, provide comforts for our armed forces everywhere, assist the dependents of absent servicemen, train thousands of nurses to serve at home and abroad, provide millions of badly-needed surgical dressings, help clothe and feed war victims in battle zones, instruct countless thousands in first aid procedures, and prepare for domestic disasters of every proportion.

The cause is just. The need is extremely vital. In traditional manner, the millions of members of the AFL will respond to the March campaign in a thoughtful, generous way.

IS THIS THE PAY-OFF?

Union members—hundreds of thousands of them—are among the 18,000 killed, 100,000 crippled in some degree, and over 2,000,000 temporary disabled each year by industrial accidents.

"Is this the Pay-off?" a recently published folder of the U. S. Department of Labor challenges local unions to do some straight thinking about these injured workers who lose much of the opportunity and security gained through their unions. It also points the way toward the solution of the problem—a safety trained member in every local to work with management in protecting the life, limb, and health of his fellow workers.

The Department of Labor in cooperation with the U. S. Office of Education is offering a 64-hour evening course in safety especially prepared for union representatives so that the goal of a safety trained member in every local may be attained. Based upon a longer course in which 7,000 production supervisors have been trained, the labor course is packed with practical, firing-line information on accident and disease prevention. "Is This the Pay-off?" introduces this course to locals and explains how they may take advantage of it.

Labor Aids OPA Fight on Rent Gouging

Organized labor is giving active aid to the Office of Price Administration's fight against exhorbitant rents.

In 53 of the largest and most important war production centers, unions have begun a drive to tighten the control of residential rents, second largest item in the average family's budget.

Cooperating with OPA rent officials, local labor committees in the 53 cities are distributing thousands of questionnaires among union members. The questionnaires are intended to ascertain two vital facts in the effective control of rents.

The OPA Labor Advisory Committee devised the questionnaire after a study of rents in 53 cities revealed the necessity of tightening up the control of this essential cost-of-living item. Union officers are emphasizing the importance of filling out the questionnaires promptly and returning them to the designated union officers or committee.

We Don't Patronize

The following persons and firms, after a thorough examination into the causes at issue, have been deemed unworthy of the patronage of members of organized labor and their friends:

APARTMENT HOUSES
Graystone Apartments
286 Lenox Ave.

BAKERS, CONFECTIONERS
Fischer's Kettle Fresh Candy Co.
5815 Foothill Blvd., Oakland
Peter Paul, Inc., 1001 81st Ave.
Purity Biscuit Company
Salt Lake City, Utah
Saylor's Chocolates, Inc.
2420 Encinal Ave., Alameda
Hoffman Candy Co., Los Angeles, Calif.

BARBER AND BEAUTY SHOPS
The Star Barber Shop,
1926 University Ave., Berkeley
Stier's Beauty Salon,
1934 Broadway
Beauty Shops that do not display the shop card of Beautician's Union No. 134-A
Barber Shop, 5487 Foothill Blvd.
Barber Shop, 474 8th St.
Passadori Shop, 3337 Lakeshore
Barber Shop, 5482 College Ave.
Leamington Barber Shop

CLEANING AND DYEING
Drake Cleaners, Chas. O. Hultberg, 146 E. 12th St.
White Front Cleaners,
2601 San Pablo Ave.
French Art Cleaners, formerly known as Drake Cleaners,
1167 65th St.

DRUG STORES
Stier Drug Co.,
3407 Lakeshore, Oakland

LOCKSMITHS
All locksmiths in the East Bay area not displaying the union shop card

PRINTING - NEWSPAPERS
Life
Time
West Coast Printing Co.,
467 4th St.
Saturday Evening Post
Ladies' Home Journal
Country Gentleman

RESTAURANTS
White Log Taverns
True Blue Cafeteria,
1714 Franklin St., Oakland
True Food Cafeteria,
308 14th St.
The Hickory Pit,
4308 Telegraph Ave.
Ennor's Bakery and Restaurant,
2081 Allston Way, Berkeley
Jule's Ice Cream Delivery,
1971 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley
2211 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley
2309 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley

STORES
Kirby Shoe Stores,
982 B St., Hayward
2018 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley
Vine Pastry Shop,
2114 Vine St., Berkeley
Florsheim Shoe Co.
1444 Broadway
Burt's, 1209 Washington St.
Berland's, 1535 Broadway
Feltman & Curme, 1124 Washington St. and 1932 Telegraph Ave.
Leed's Shoe Store,
1315 Washington St.
Nisley Shoe Store,
1425 Broadway
F. W. Woolworth Company,
Hayward

MISCELLANEOUS
West Oakland Sheet Metal Supply Company, 1231 Center St., Oakland
Hotel Menlo, 13th & Webster Sts., Oakland
Precision Engineering Company, 5701 Green St., Emeryville
Sealy Mattress Co.,
6699 San Pablo Ave.
Bannum Truck Company
Gantner & Mattern Co.,
3rd and Berry St.,
San Francisco
West Coast Macaroni Manufacturing Co., 1250 57th Avenue, Oakland
Blackstone Mfg. Co., N. Y., Tools and Implements
National Mattress Co.,
920 54th Ave.
Petersen Tractor and Equipment Company, Hayward
National Nut Company,
362 Fourth St.
Sherwin-Williams Paint Co.
Goldstone Bros., Overalls
O'Keefe & Merritt Stove Co., Los Angeles
Sunset View Cemetery
C. K. Williams, Emeryville
Portland Hotel, 476 9th St., Oakland
Bear Creek Vineyard Association, Lodi
Bottled Brands of Wine: "Bear Creek," "Bruin" and "Palencia"; bottled brandies: "Ceremony" and "Bruin"

Georgia Legislature Rejects Ban On Union Shop Measure By Unanimous Vote

By unanimous vote, the Georgia State Legislature killed a proposed constitutional amendment outlawing the union shop.

AFL union representatives, headed by George Googe, spearheaded the drive against the measure which was identical with the one recently adopted by referendum in Florida. Mr. Googe reported that many Georgia industrial leaders lined up with labor to defeat the amendment. The bill was supported by the so-called Christian - American Association.

However, when the bill was scheduled to come up for debate, its sponsor, Rep. Lovett, acknowledged that it was doomed to lose and moved to withdraw it. He attacked Gov. Arnall and Speaker Harris as "dominated by organized labor." After the unanimous vote to kill the bill, Speaker Harris castigated Lovett and declared that the Georgia Legislature was too "enlightened to persecute organized labor."

Later Gov. Arnall publicly announced he considered the anti-labor amendment unconstitutional and that his view had been backed up by an official opinion by State's Attorney General Head.

The action of the Legislature means that the anti-union shop issue is dead in Georgia for the next two years at least and it was generally considered as a serious setback to the anti-labor movement in the south which had been whipped up and financed by the Christian-American Association.

AGGRESSION AND OPPRESSION MUST GO AFTER ALLIED VICTORY, GREEN SAYS

Final victory over our enemies in this war "will not be complete with unconditional surrender of the hateful things they stand for," AFL President William Green declared at a dinner to Senator Robert F. Wagner in the New Yorker Hotel in New York City.

"Dictatorship and human slavery must go," Mr. Green insisted. "Aggression and the rule of force must be abolished. Racial and religious oppression must be banished from the human sphere.

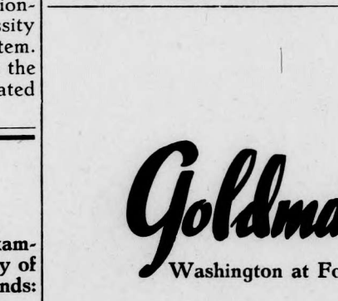
"The believers in Hitlerism are not entirely confined to Germany. We have some even in this country who hate their fellow men because of race, creed, color, or national origin. These adherents of Hitler's hateful philosophy are the same who in the past were responsible for lynchings and the tarring and feathering of labor organizers. Once they were bold and operated in the open. Now they have become fearful and whisper their foul propaganda in secret. Yet they may emerge again if we give them the opportunity.

"It is up to us, therefore, to remain militant and aggressive, to expose the followers of Fascism wherever they manifest their nefarious activities, to strip the respectable-looking camouflage from organizations such as the Christian-American Association which has carried on an active campaign for repression of labor and racial groups in many parts of the country.

"This war has taught us that freedom is worth fighting for. Our victory in the war, which is now certain, should convince the world that human freedom is unconquerable and that free labor will always triumph over slave labor. But let us in America never forget that the price of liberty and democracy is eternal vigilance."

In his talk Mr. Green bestowed high praise on Senator Wagner's legislative record and predicted that another new milestone in social security, health insurance, will soon be adopted as part of the Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill and come to be regarded "as an indispensable boon to humanity."

The dinner was tendered to Senator Wagner by the Organization for Rehabilitation through Training and Mr. Green commended the efforts of this organization to help oppressed Jews throughout the world to get training for self-sustaining employment.



THE AFL PRESENTS "AMERICA UNITED" EVERY SUNDAY AT 1:15 P. M., EWT.

March 11th—Guest, Senator Wagner; topic, "Housing." Panel members, Boris Shishkin, AFL; Emerson P. Schmidt, U. S. Chamber of Commerce, and Paul Sifton, National Farmers' Union.

Because a number of radio stations are carrying the program by transcription at another hour or even at a later date, please consult the radio listings in your local paper for the exact time "America United" goes on the air in your community.

STROKES FROM THE BRUSH OF LOCAL No. 127

BY HUGHIE RUTLEDGE: The following brothers on the sick list at the present time: Fritz Mansing, Chas. Fatthauer, W. G. Hawkins, C. F. Mize, Alex Geckler, Antone Flores, Hugh Breese, Elmer Summers, J. V. Travis, James Hood, J. S. Mersick, Peter Brown, H. Transgrud and Fred Wozney.

Work has again picked up considerably and we have no one unemployed. Fishing is all to the bad and probably will be for another month. We continue on with the experiences of one of our members who knows about those government construction projects:

Six electric bulbs hang from the ceiling, one for each six bunks. The whole effect is gloomy and unhealthy. Two inadequate oil stoves, one at each end of the barracks, are supposed to heat up the place. They never ever have. They are a constant source of ingenious experiment to get them to work.

The washrooms and toilets are in a separate building, fifty feet away. The sub freezing temperatures of night and morning make the dash across that space exhilarating, indeed. Forty per cent of the time there is no hot water. But as I mentioned, workers put up with some unique experiences. They are a rugged lot. They have to be.

Next morning, a whistle blows at 5:45 a. m. Time to get up. Like ancient heroes we gird ourselves—sweaters and pea jackets. Under cold stars we hike a half mile to the mess hall. Wait in line to buy a meal ticket. A longer line against the wall on the inside. We shiver and shuffle along. Cafeteria style. "Show your badges, please. Can't eat without your badges." I ask why? "Navy regulations" and the gestapo in back of her gives me the gimlet eye.

Aluminum trays and iron cutlery. Do you like fried salame? Or baloney? Or evil tasting eggs? Sorry. So you take a bowl of oatsies, sprinkle it with weatsies or riceys and soak it with canned milk. Sometimes there are doughnuts or bear claws or an apple. Always there are sour oranges and always, ad nauseum, the salame or baloney and eggs. Fifty cents, please.

No one complains of the chipped or cracked cups. We have a better method. We drop them on the cement floor.

So we eat. Then down the dark street, booby trapped with mudholes and ditches to the brass shack. Wait in line. Number 12345. Off, then, to the shop, a mile down there in the dark. A pall of dust hangs over the camp. Trucks and cars and men in the dusty darkness like taking a beachhead. (You can ride a truck to the shop if you get up twenty minutes earlier.) You reach the shop just in time to catch the seven o'clock truck out to the project. Don't forget to hang up your damn brass! Through the night, over the bumps, standing room only, we go. A pretty long ride. We get out at another shack and stumble around some more booby traps—real ones—six feet deep sewer ditches.

We gather our tools and half frozen, we thread our way to our particular job.

(To be continued).

Several of the brothers were removed from the job during the past week for not having their first quarter's dues paid. We still have a few brothers who are not paid up.

Next meeting of the local will be Thursday, March 22nd.



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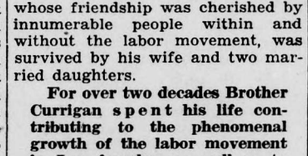
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MORE ABOUT CONFERENCE AT FRESNO

Continued from Page 3

committee under the chairmanship of Senator Shelley, which authorized a series of bills, most of which will be supported by the Federation with a few being opposed. The reason for opposition to some of the bills that this committee has submitted is due to differences in language, and the members of the committee fully appreciate the position taken by the Federation. Attorney Scully reviewed briefly all of the bills listed in the digest.

On the veterans' bills, a committee has been established by the American Legion with full authority conferred upon it by the State Department, to analyze all veterans' bills and oppose those which are bad. Secretary Haggerty is on this committee representing labor and is working with them on all bills.

Bills dealing with workmen's compensation were reported on by Attorney Janigian, who stated that out of 87 bills introduced on this subject, 12 were sponsored by the Federation. A large number of bills introduced by the Assembly Interim Committee are bad because they seek to place procedural difficulties in the path of litigants.

The whole subject of the compulsory health plan is one that is receiving the greatest attention, and the need of activating the A. F. of L. membership throughout the state in support of such a plan was stressed by Secretary Haggerty. The Federation will issue material to the various locals so that they, in turn, can utilize this material in behalf of the program, and can contact their local legislative representatives to support such a necessary measure. Secretary Haggerty reported that after discussing this whole matter with various people, it is the consensus of opinion that labor should support one bill that has a chance of being adopted, which in his opinion is the Governor's bill. He pointed out that a number of amendments have already been prepared by the Federation which will be submitted to the health bill. These amendments are the same as reported in an earlier issue of the Journal. The meeting expressed itself through a motion that representatives in Sacramento concentrate their efforts to adopt the health insurance proposition as submitted by the Governor, and to take whatever steps are necessary to obtain the amendments to the bill.

The next subject that came up for discussion was post-war planning. A.B. 427, which is known as the League of Cities bill, was gone into in detail. This bill creates a local post-war fund for cities and counties to be used for construction of local public works and improvements when matching funds are appropriated by the Legislature. Other bills provided for allocation of money to highways, etc. After considerable discussion, A.B. 427, 1350 and 1351 were endorsed by the conference.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p. m.

Burt B. Currigan, Veteran Labor Leader Succumbs

An irreplaceable loss in the labor movement occurred Sunday, March 3rd, when Burt B. Currigan, secretary-treasurer of the Building Material and Dump Truck Drivers, Local 420, Los Angeles, passed away. Brother Currigan, one of the best-liked men in the labor movement whose friendship was cherished by innumerable people within and without the labor movement, was survived by his wife and two married daughters.

For over two decades Brother Currigan spent his life contributing to the phenomenal growth of the labor movement in Los Angeles, as well as to the organizations with which he has been associated since his advent into the labor movement. He was a former president of the Joint Council of Teamsters in Los Angeles. He was also treasurer of the Joint Council, vice-president of the Building Trades Council of Los Angeles, and served on various government agencies, exerting himself to discharge his many obligations, not only as a labor official but as a patriotic citizen.

The California State Federation of Labor cannot express too deeply the feeling of loss caused by the passing of Brother Currigan, and to his family and friends we wish to convey heartfelt condolences. In the ranks of labor his deeds will live forever, and although he has departed he will never be forgotten.

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